

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES PROBATION DEPARTMENT

9150 EAST IMPERIAL HIGHWAY – DOWNEY, CALIFORNIA 90242 (562) 940-2501



Chief Probation Officer

"Special Enforcement Operations (SEO) on Patrol at UCLA Bruins vs. Oregon Ducks"

Saturday, October 11, 2014 Pasadena Rose Bowl From 6:00am-2:00pm

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Eric Newby, Director, Special Enforcement Operations 213-220-7134

The Los Angeles County Probation Department's Special Enforcement Operations will be visibly present along side the Pasadena police hours before kick-off between the UCLA Bruins and Oregon Ducks. Probation's armed officers are playing a key role in preventing fan violence before, during and after major events. Saturday's sold out game is a unique opportunity for LAC Probation and the Pasadena Police to detect and dissuade criminal behavior. The Probation Department estimates as many as one in three people at major events are on some form of Probation supervision.

Assistant Probation Chief Margarita Perez says, "It is through our collaboration that we will work together to prevent such disruptive actions, but if it becomes unavoidable, we will not hesitate to remove perpetrators who choose to ruin it for everyone else through their bad behavior. The fans should be able to enjoy the game with their families without having to worry about the eruption of violence. It is our hope to help accomplish this goal through our alliance with our law enforcement."

"This is about public safety, but a vast majority of the public is at the game to have a good time and



cheer on their team, says Eric Newby, Director of Specialized Enforcement Operations, "Our uniformed presence is about diversion and prevention. Often just the sight of a Probation uniform is enough to get someone thinking twice about breaking the law."

LAC Probation is the newest member of the Southern California Taskforce on Fan Behavior, led by the Los Angeles Sports Council. Over the past three years, many of the major sports venues in Southern California have experienced serious incidents involving fan behavior. Just last week, the severe beating of an Angels' baseball fan sparked conversation about what more can be done to assure fans. In June of 2011, the Los Angeles Sports Council hosted a Venues Summit on Fan Behavior to discuss the serious fan behavior incidents. Nearly 100 venue management and team personnel as well as members of the law enforcement community attended. As a result, the group created a Southern California Task Force on Fan Behavior.

All of the major sports venues in Southern California, teams, both UCLA and USC and the Pasadena Tournament of Roses have participated in the Task Force. The group meets on a regular basis and is working together to develop several initiatives designed to achieve two basic objectives: First, to take steps to ensure that members of this community can attend sporting events in safety and comfort. Second, to make it known to the "offenders" that all of the venues in Southern California are working *together* to identify and address the serious fan behavior incidents and those who commit them.

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